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## **1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this supplement is to provide procedures for the production, coordination, issuance, and dissemination of the River Flood Outlook text product.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

The River Flood Outlook text product provides partners and customers with information about potential river flooding that may occur within 48 hours based on forecast rainfall. This supplement will outline the roles and responsibilities of the SRH, RFCs, and WFOs with respect to this product.

## **3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **A. SOUTHERN REGION HEADQUARTERS**

SRH will provide overall guidance on the preparation and issuance of the River Flood Outlook text product.

### **B. RIVER FORECAST CENTERS**

1. The RFCs will be responsible for producing the River Flood Outlook product.
2. The RFCs will coordinate with the affected WFO(s) prior to the production of the River Flood Outlook product, and discuss the need for the River Flood Outlook product and other pertinent product details.

3. The RFCs will use the ESG product category to transmit the River Flood Outlook product to the affected WFO(s). They will also use the ESG product category to notify the affected WFO(s) about River Flood Outlook cancellations or updates.
4. RFCs will use a minimum of 24 hours of QPF to generate a River Flood Outlook product. RFCs may use up to 48 hours of QPF in product generation.
5. The RFCs will use the River Flood Outlook product creation software/scripts developed by ABRFC. Any suggested modifications/enhancements to the software/scripts will be coordinated with the appropriate RFC(s) and the Chief of the Hydrologic Services Branch. Operational support for the River Flood Outlook software/scripts will be provided by ABRFC.
6. The RFCs will coordinate with their servicing WFOs to acquire hydrologic information necessary to produce the River Flood Outlook product.

### **C. WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES**

1. The WFOs will use the ESF product category to issue the River Flood Outlook text product (sample in Appendix) to the public.
2. The WFOs may edit the RFC-produced River Flood Outlook text product prior to issuance to the public. Any significant modifications (e.g., flood severity, forecast points affected) made to the text product or decisions not to issue the text product, will (workload permitting) be coordinated with the servicing RFC(s).
3. The WFOs should alarm at least two AWIPS workstations to notify forecasters of RFC ESG product receipt.
4. WFOs will use the ESF product category to update or cancel a River Flood Outlook text product.
5. WFOs serviced by more than one SR RFC may combine the contents of multiple River Flood Outlook products into one River Flood Outlook product issuance.
6. WFOs may initiate River Flood Outlook product coordination with their servicing SR RFCs.
7. The WFO will have the final authority and responsibility on the public issuance of a River Flood Outlook product.

**Appendix - Sample River Flood Outlook Product**

FGUS74 KSHV 231330  
ESFSHV  
OKC089-ARC081-133-061-057-073-091-LAC015-017-250200-

HYDROLOGIC OUTLOOK  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SHREVEPORT LA  
830 AM CDT TUE OCT 23 2001

...RIVER FLOOD OUTLOOK FOR PORTIONS OF THE FOUR-STATE  
REGION...

HEAVY RAINFALL THAT IS FORECAST OVER THE FOUR-STATE REGION  
DURING  
THE NEXT 24 HOURS WILL QUICKLY RUN OFF ALREADY SATURATED  
SOILS.

WIDESPREAD BASIN-AVERAGED RAINFALL AMOUNTS IN EXCESS OF THREE  
INCHES WITH LOCALIZED AMOUNTS UP TO FIVE INCHES MAY CAUSE  
RIVERS AND STREAMS TO RISE TO LEVELS THAT RESULT IN FLOODING.

THIS RIVER FLOOD OUTLOOK IS IN EFFECT DUE TO THE POTENTIAL  
FOR...

- MODERATE FLOODING ON THE GLOVER RIVER NEAR GLOVER
- MODERATE FLOODING ALONG THE LITTLE RIVER FROM NEAR IDABEL  
TO NEAR HORATIO
- MINOR FLOODING ON THE RED RIVER NEAR FULTON

A RIVER FLOOD OUTLOOK MEANS THERE IS A POTENTIAL FOR RIVER  
FLOODING...BUT IT IS NOT IMMINENT. FORECAST RAINFALL MAY  
CAUSE  
RIVERS AND STREAMS TO RISE TO CRITICAL STAGES. PERSONS WITH  
INTERESTS ALONG THE AREAS MENTIONED ABOVE SHOULD REMAIN  
INFORMED  
OF THE LATEST WEATHER AND RIVER INFORMATION AND BE PREPARED TO  
TAKE ACTION AS NECESSARY. PLEASE REFER TO NATIONAL WEATHER  
SERVICE RIVER FLOOD WARNINGS AND STATEMENTS FOR THE LATEST  
INFORMATION IN YOUR AREA.

NWS [REGION/FIELD/NCEP abbrev]S Number